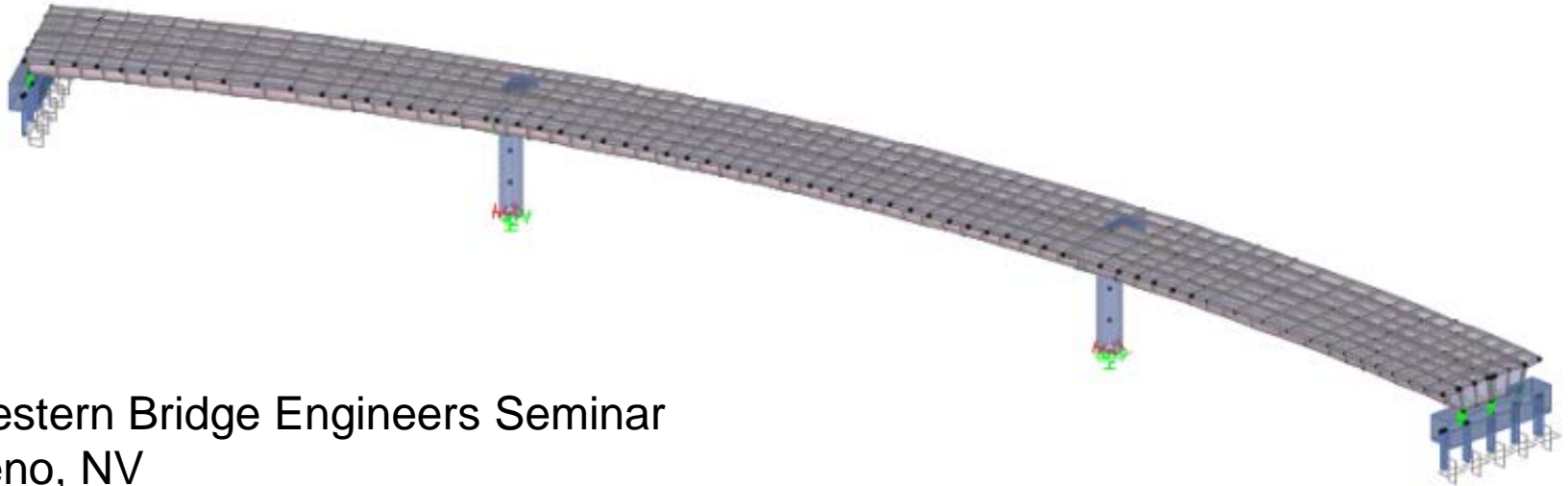


Plastic Hinging Considerations for Single-Column Piers Supporting Highly Curved Ramp Bridges



Western Bridge Engineers Seminar
Reno, NV

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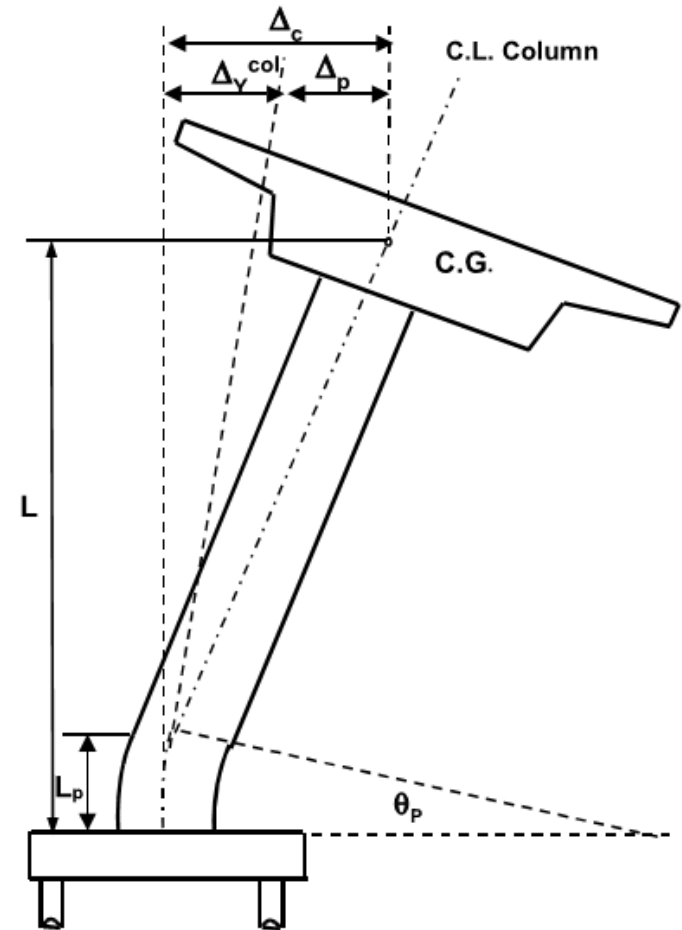
September 10, 2015

Overview

- **Typical Straight Ramp Bridge Hinging Locations**
- **Possible Curved Ramp Bridge Hinging Locations**
- **Any Need for Concern?**
- **Fixed Bridge Response**
- **Drilled Shaft Foundations**
- **Pile Foundations**
- **Other Design Considerations**

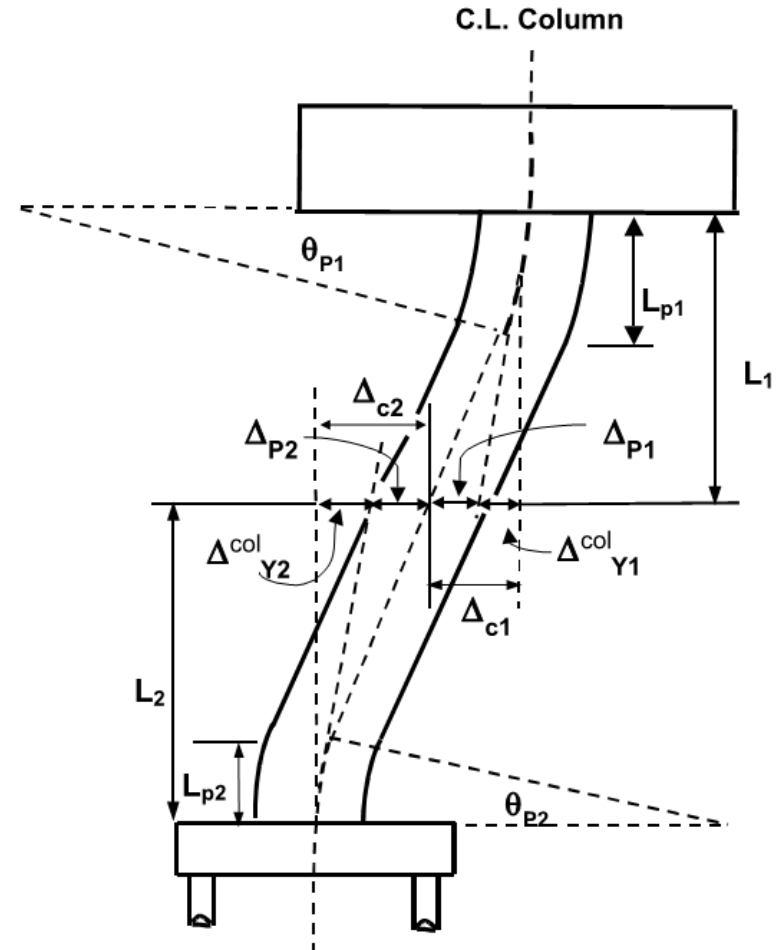
Typical Straight Bridge Hinging Locations

- Typically modelled as a "flag pole" in transverse direction
- Bottom of column hinge location typical
- Assume superstructure has negligible torsional rigidity



Possible Curved Bridge Hinging Locations

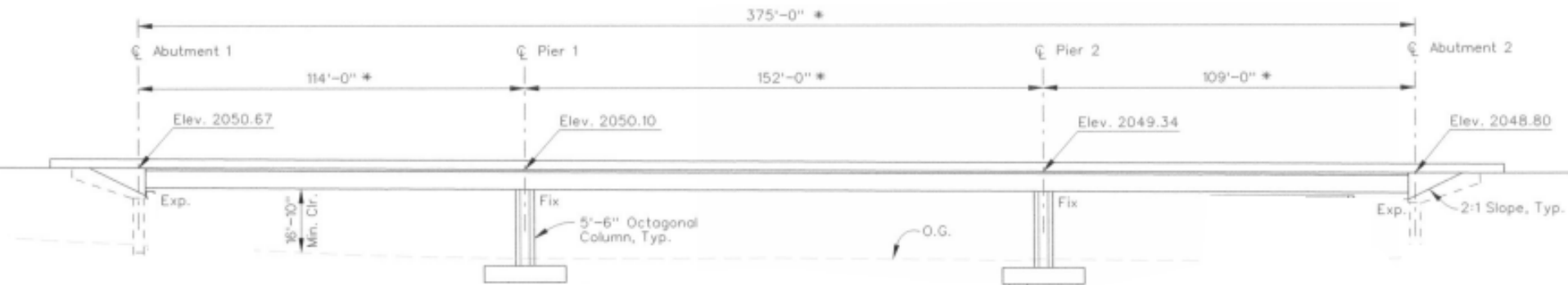
- Torsional rigidity in addition to longitudinal coupling of superstructure stiffness increases top of column rigidity
- Can create reverse curvature
- Hinging possible at top and bottom of column



Any Need for Concern?

- The answer is **YES!** if no hinging is expected from longitudinal EQ
- Due to hinging the top of the column, the shear force will approximately double as compared to a column in single curvature.
- Confinement details may not be provided at top of column.
- Column vertical reinforcement may not have proper development into crossbeam.
- **CONCLUSION:** The above items could lead to unintended column performance although the structure met current seismic design requirements.

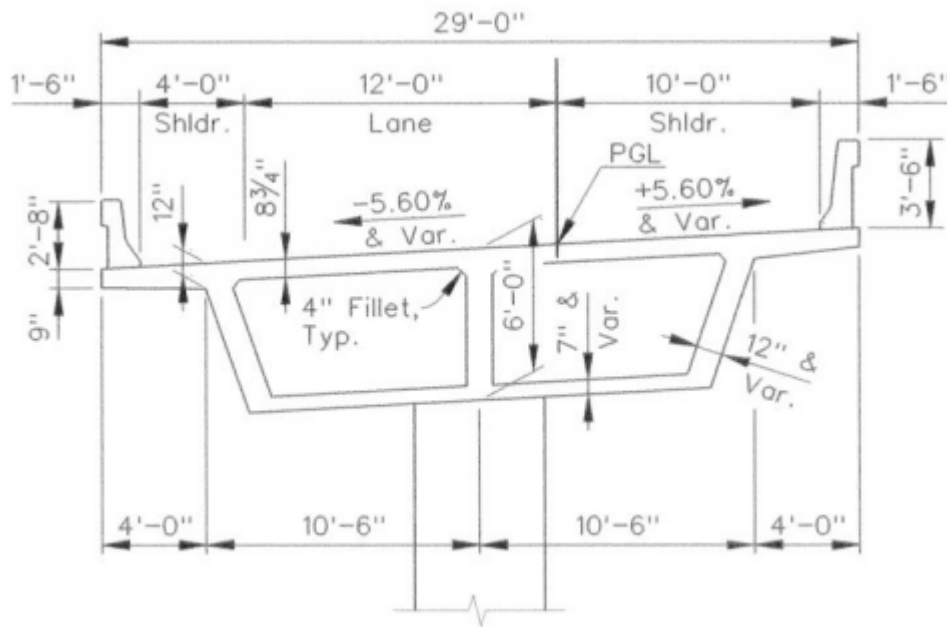
Example Bridge – CIP Box Girder



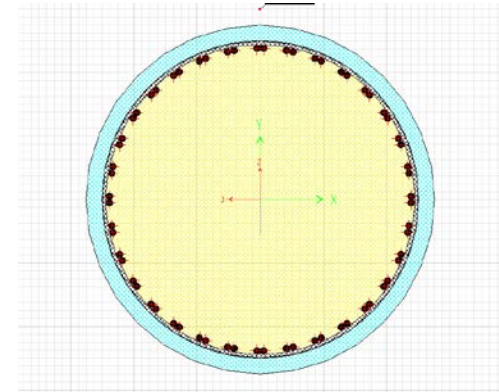
Variations Considered

- **Curve Radii: 1000ft, 800ft, 600ft**
- **Foundation Types: Fixed, Drilled Shaft, Piles**

Example Bridge – Typical Sections



Typical Section

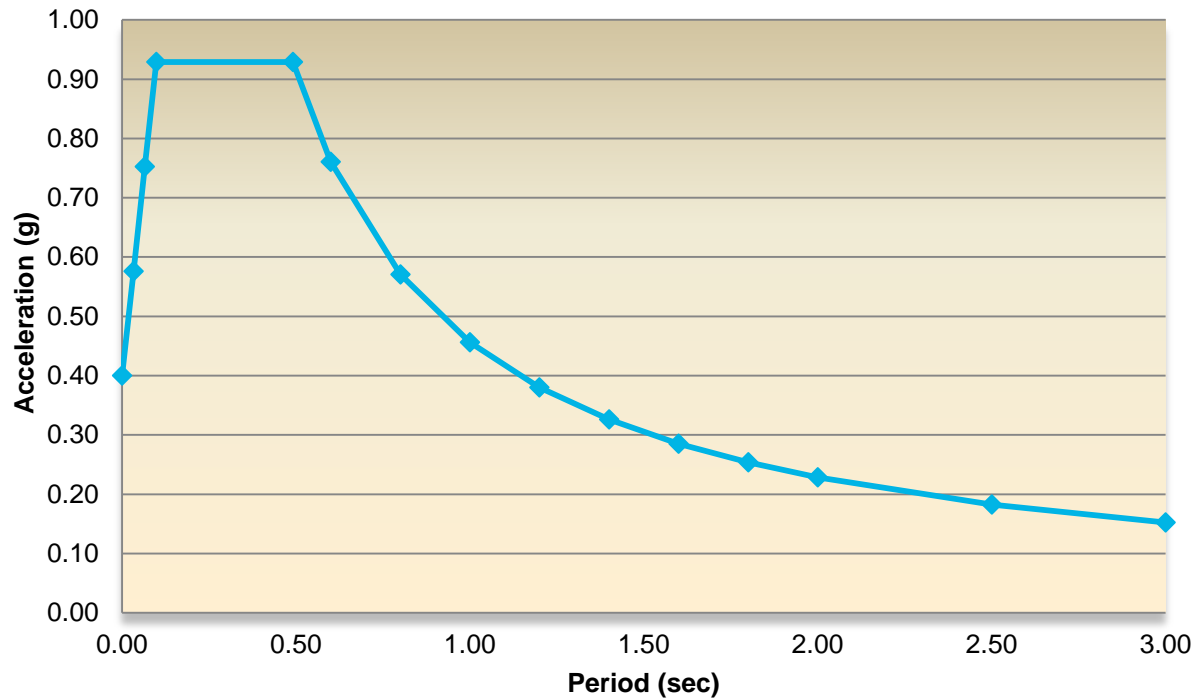


Typical Column Section

- $f'_c = 4$ ksi (all concrete)

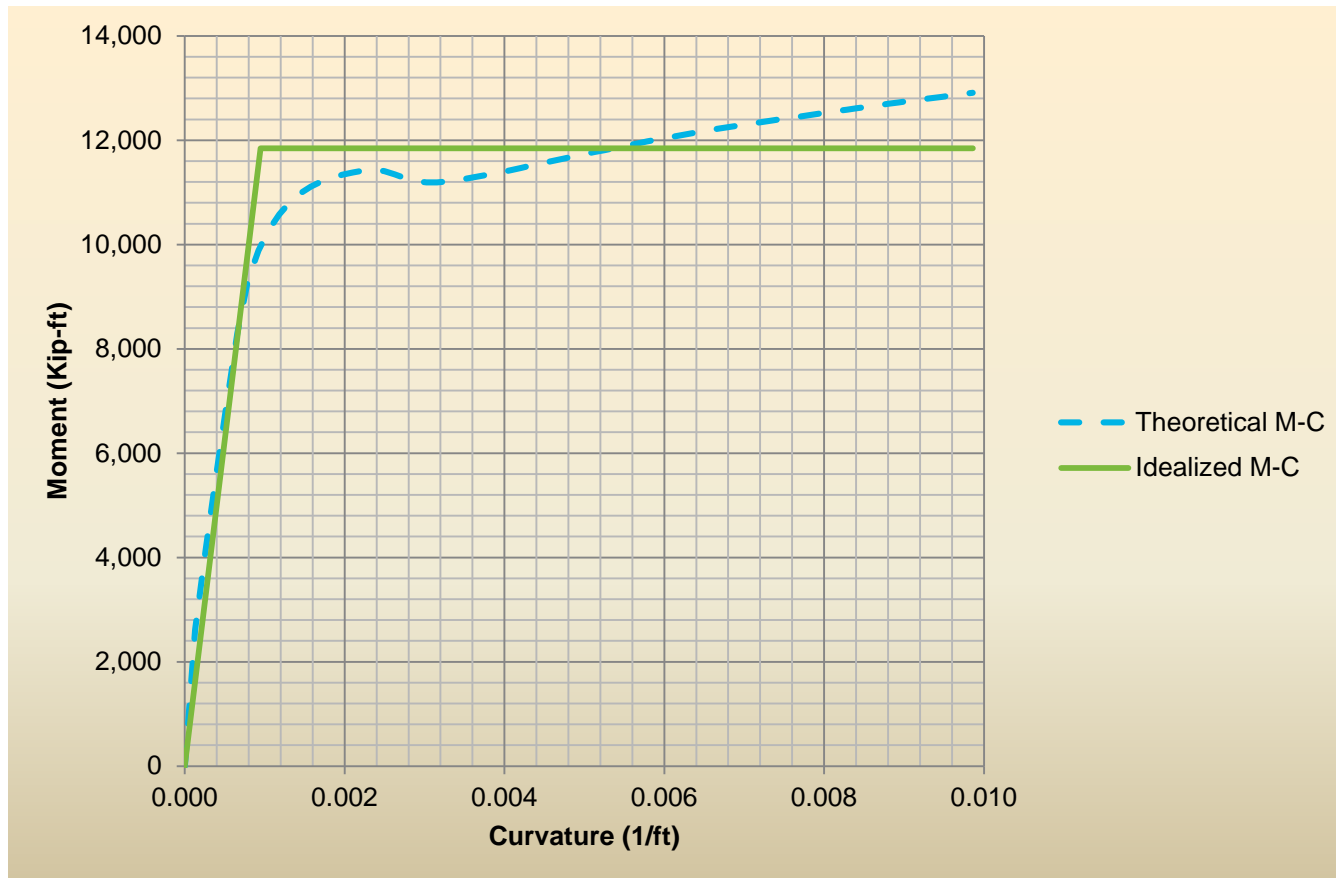
- 5ft – 6in Diameter
- 64-#10 bars (2.4%)
- #6 spiral @ 3 ½ in pitch

Example Bridge – Response Spectrum



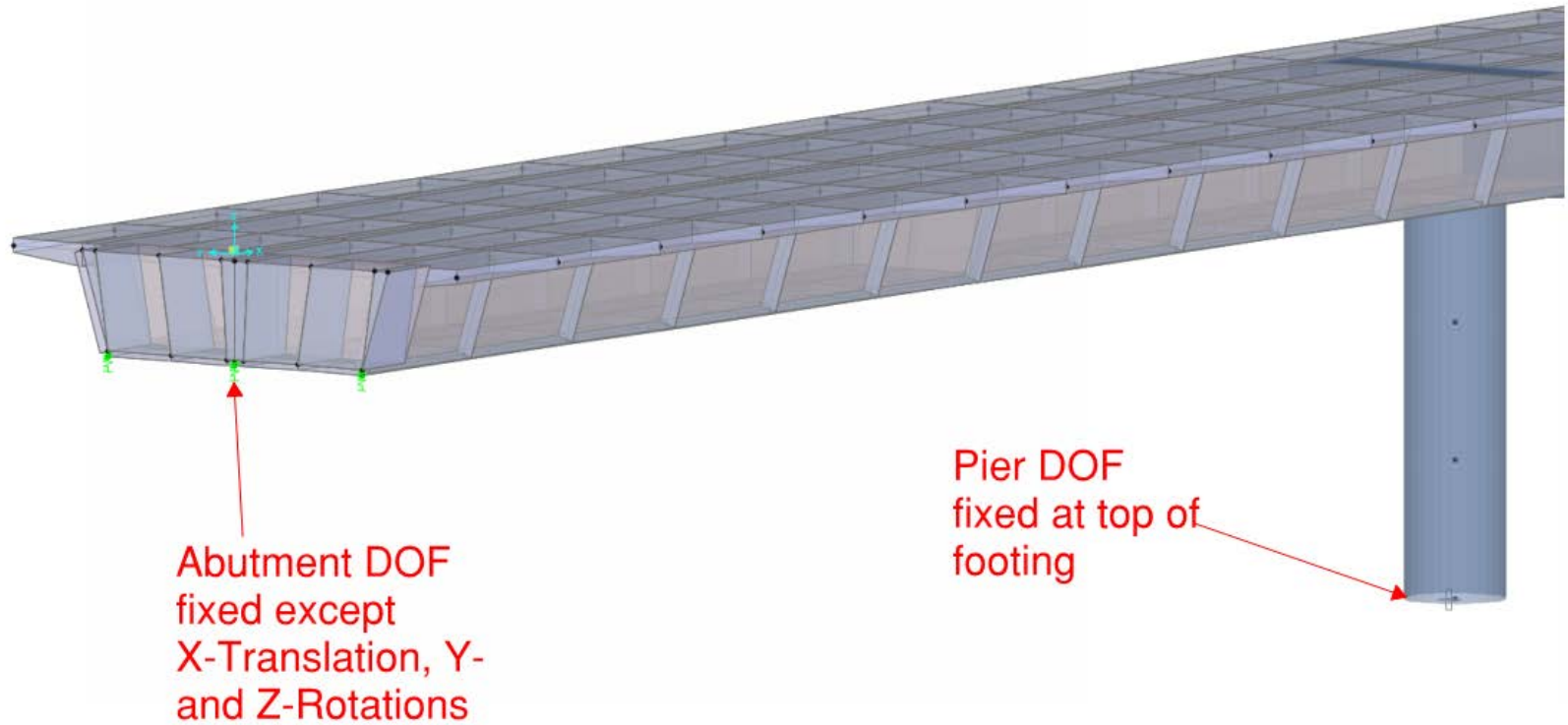
- **Peak bedrock ground acceleration, 0.4g**
- **0.2 Sec Acceleration, 0.89g: 1.0 Sec Acceleration, 0.30g**
- **Seattle area, Site Class "C"**

Moment Curvature Plot

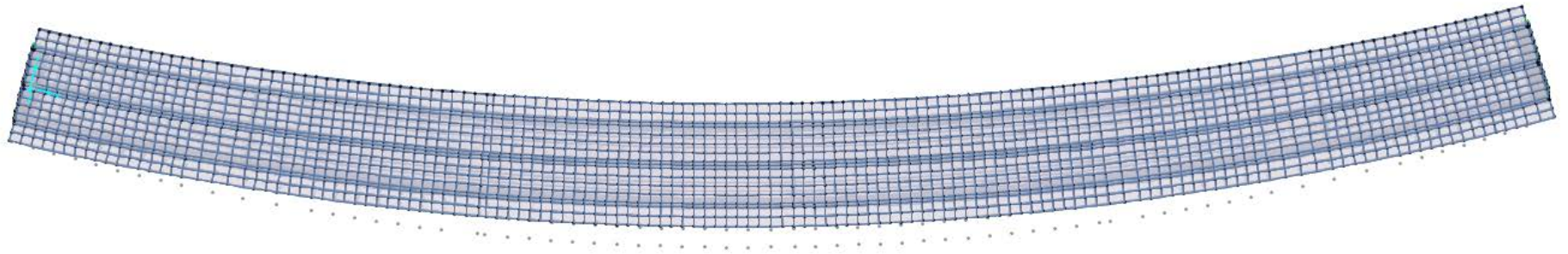


- Axial Load = 1,300 kip
- Used expected material properties

Fixed Based Model

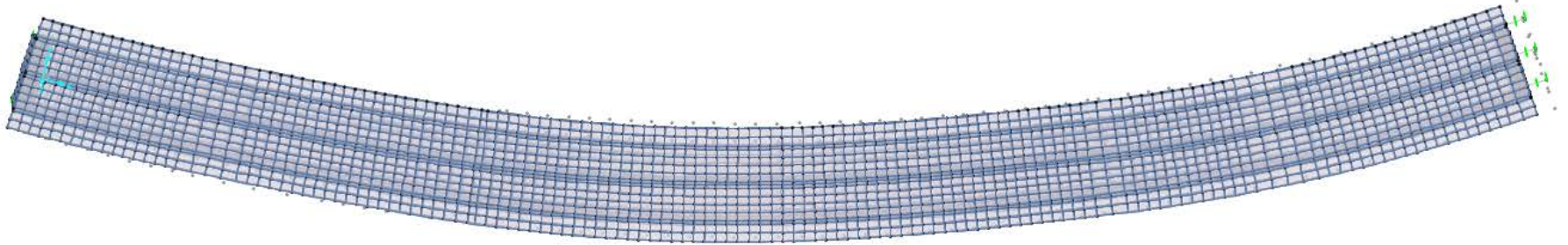


First Mode: $T = 0.49$ sec



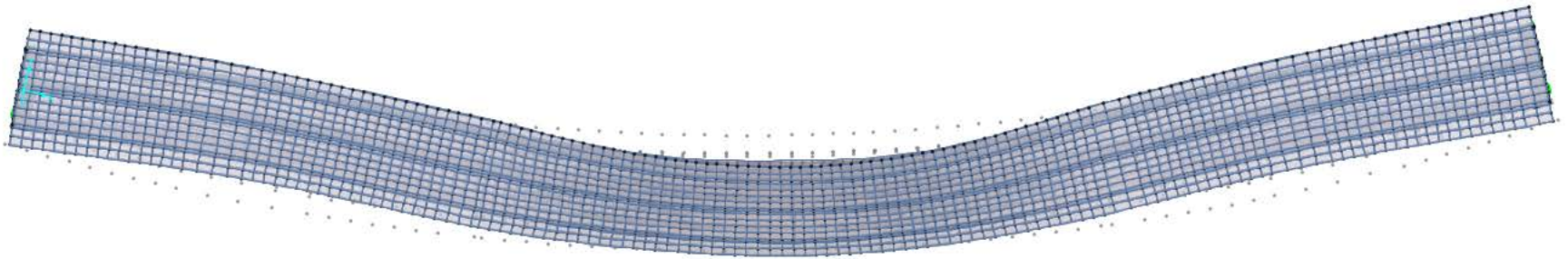
- **Mode Participation Factor = 0.7080**

Second Mode: $T = 0.42$ sec



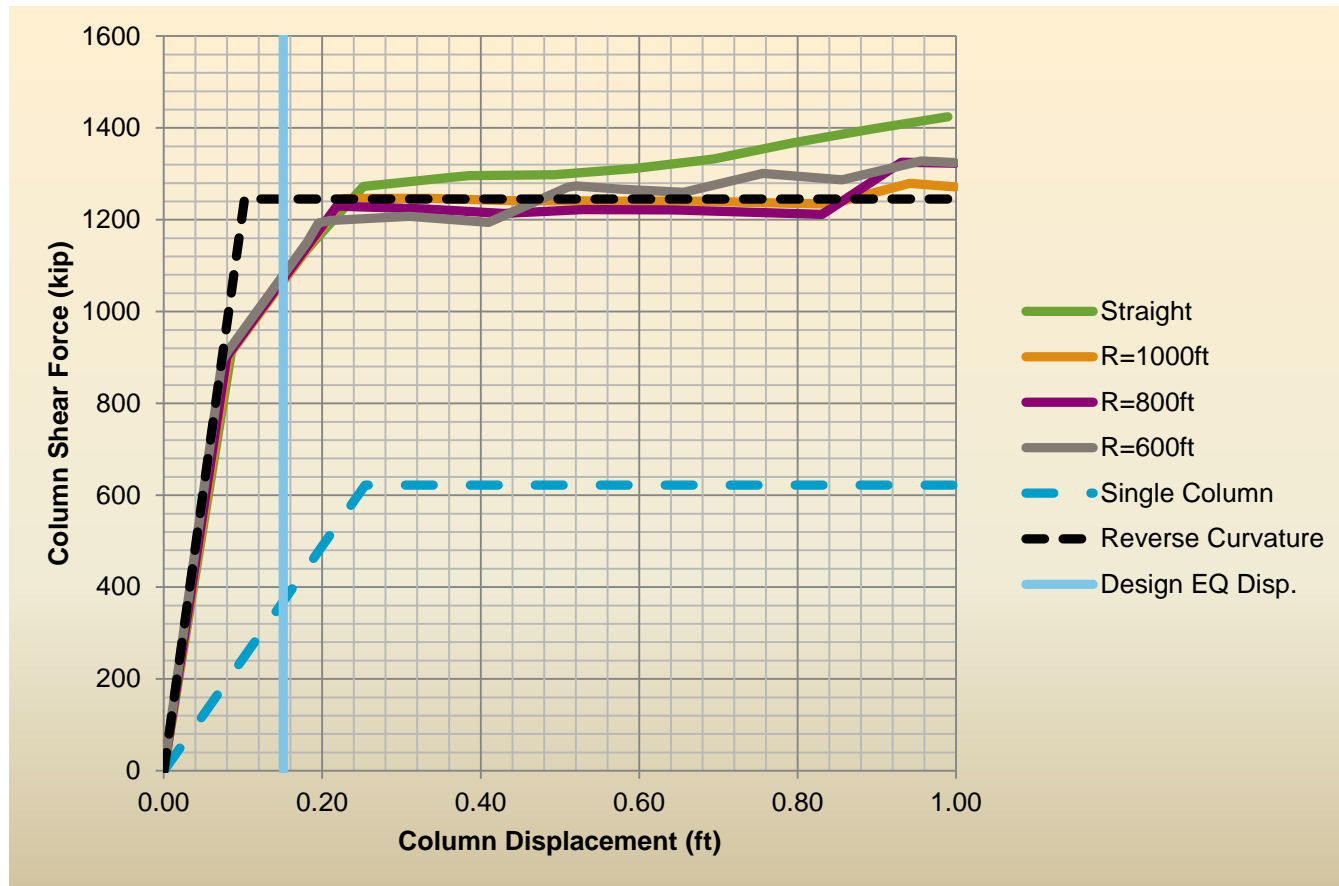
- **Mode Participation Factor = 0.1301**

Seventh Mode: $T = 0.13$ sec

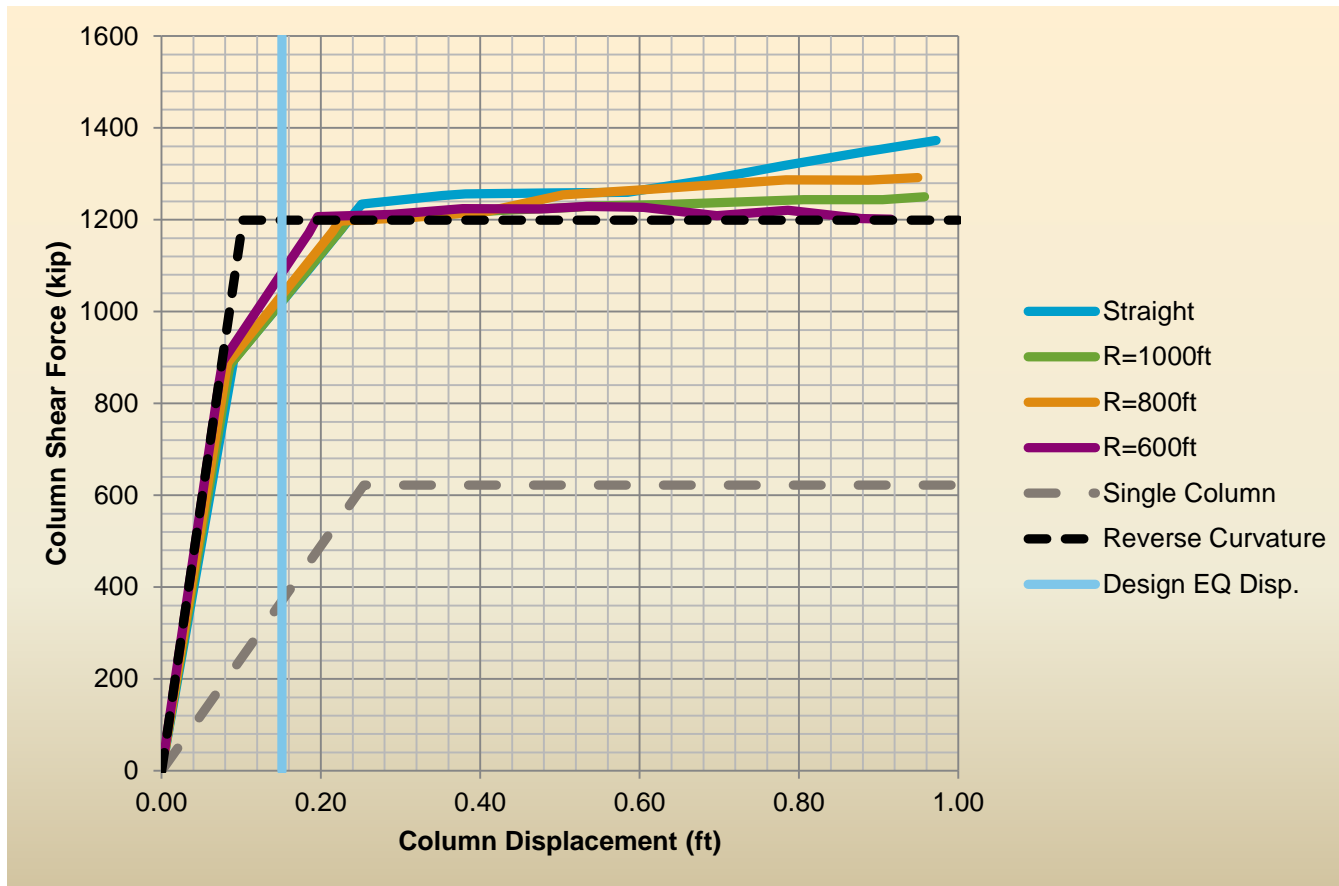


- **Mode Participation Factor = 0.1618**

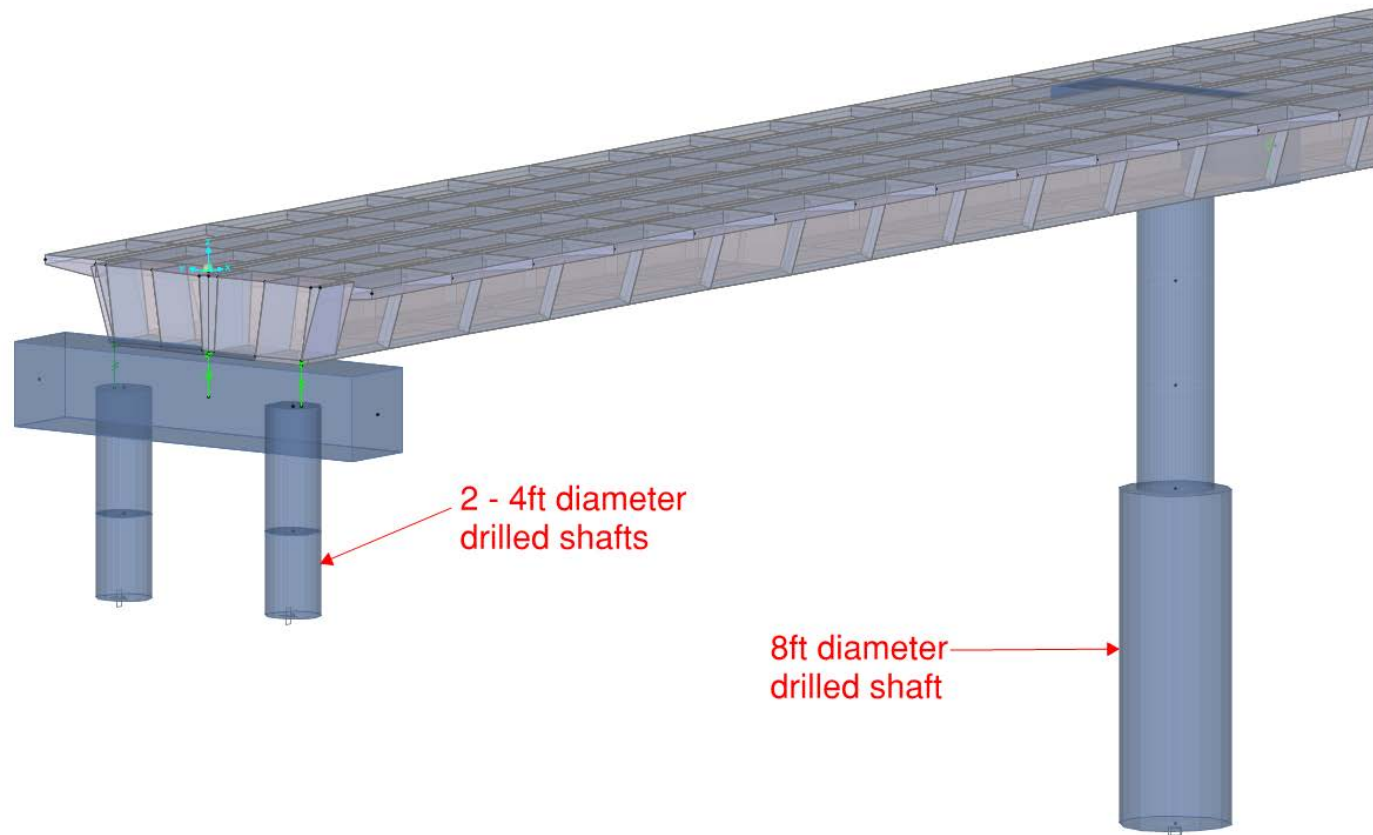
Fixed Based Response – Pier 1



Fixed Based Response – Pier 2

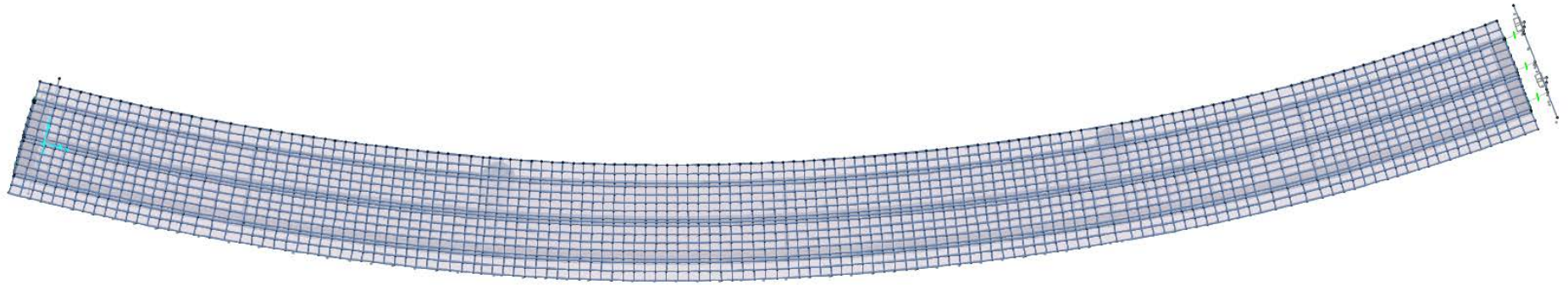


Drilled Shaft Model



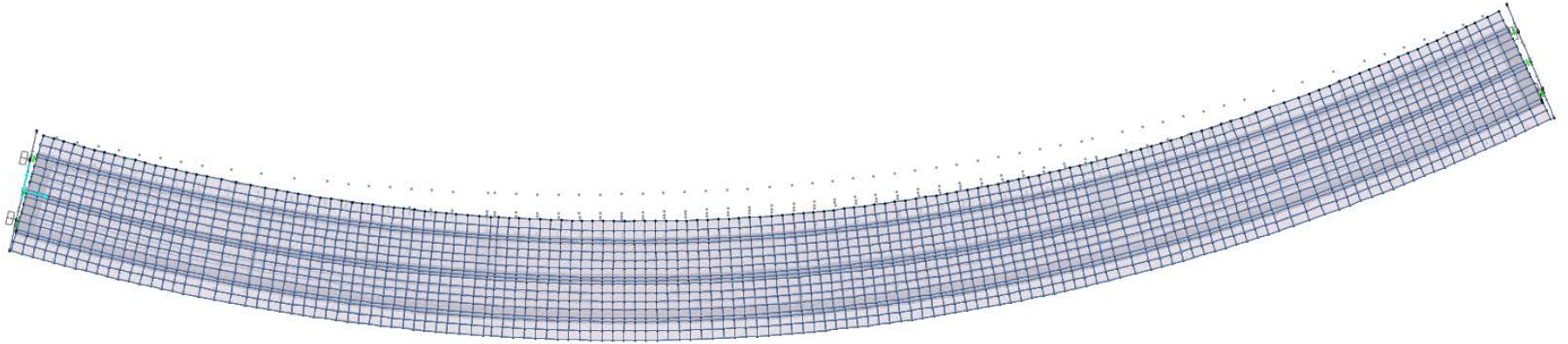
- **Depth to fixity assumed to be 3 shaft diameters**

First Mode: $T = 0.68$ sec



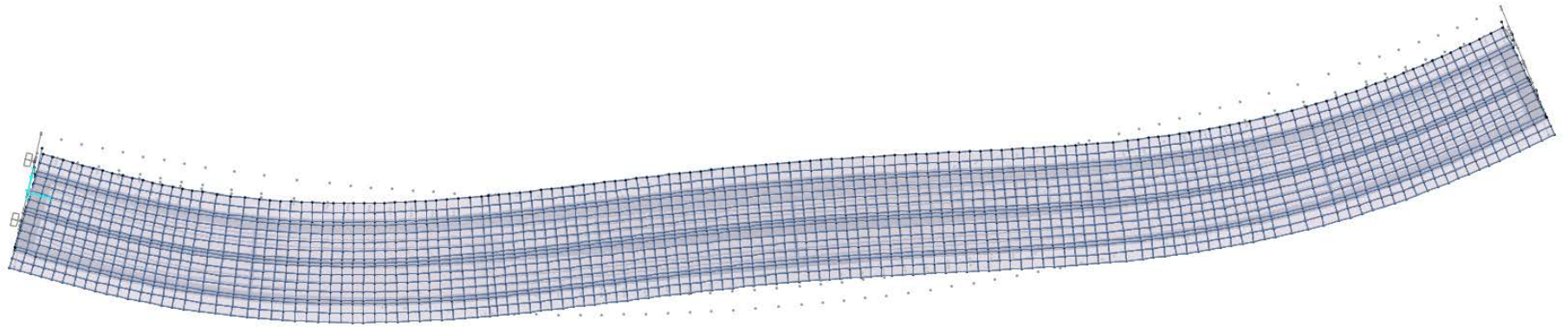
- **Mode Participation Factor = 0.0639**

Second Mode: $T = 0.67$ sec



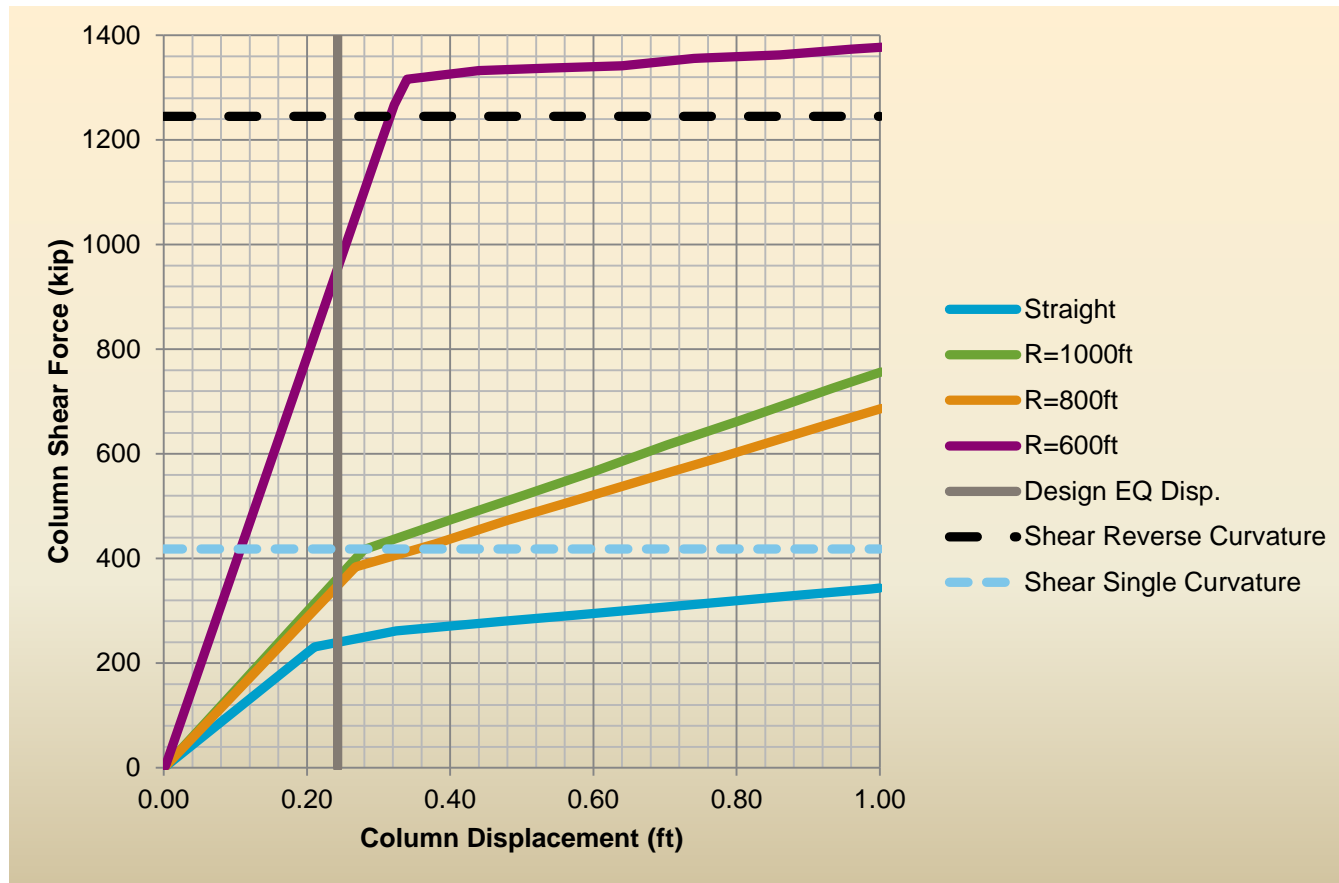
- **Mode Participation Factor = 0.7357**

Seventh Mode: $T = 0.16$ sec

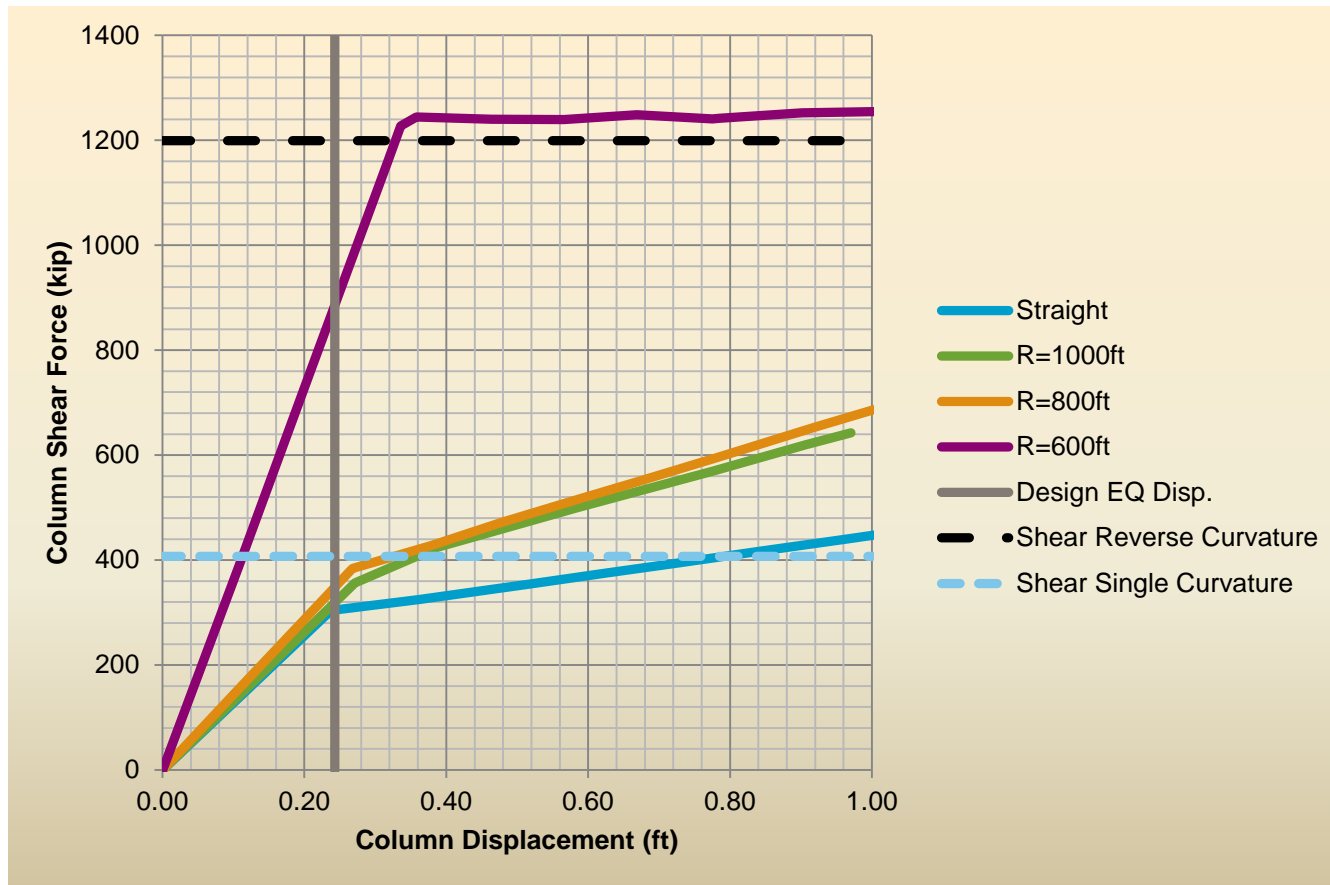


- **Mode Participation Factor = 0.2034**

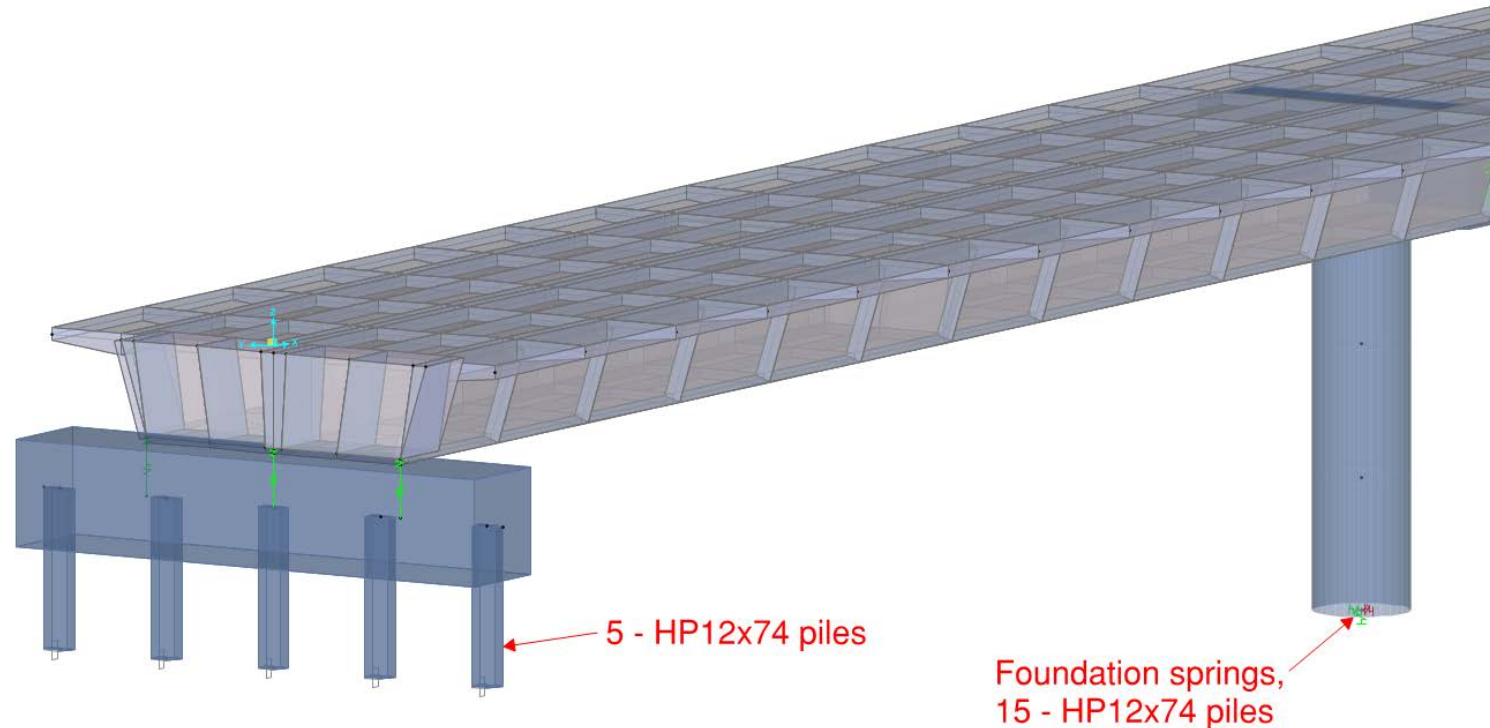
Drilled Shaft Response – Pier 1



Drilled Shaft Response – Pier 2

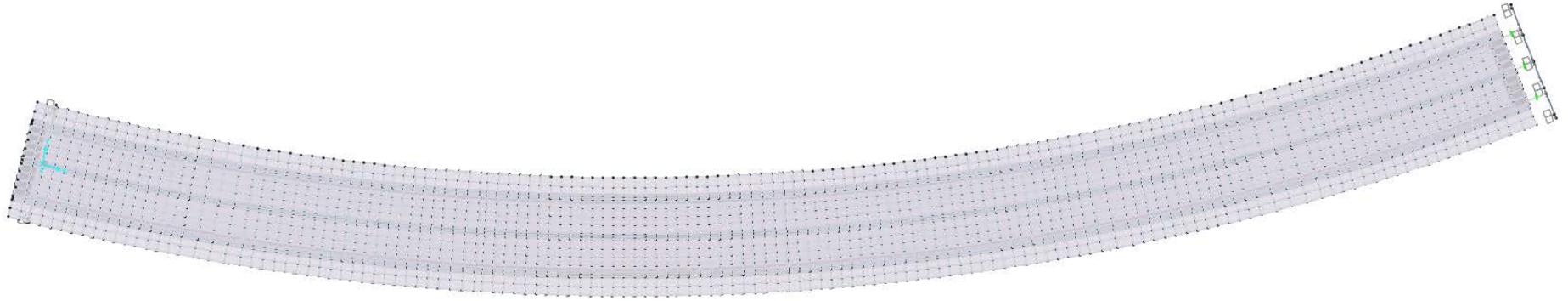


Pile Foundation Model



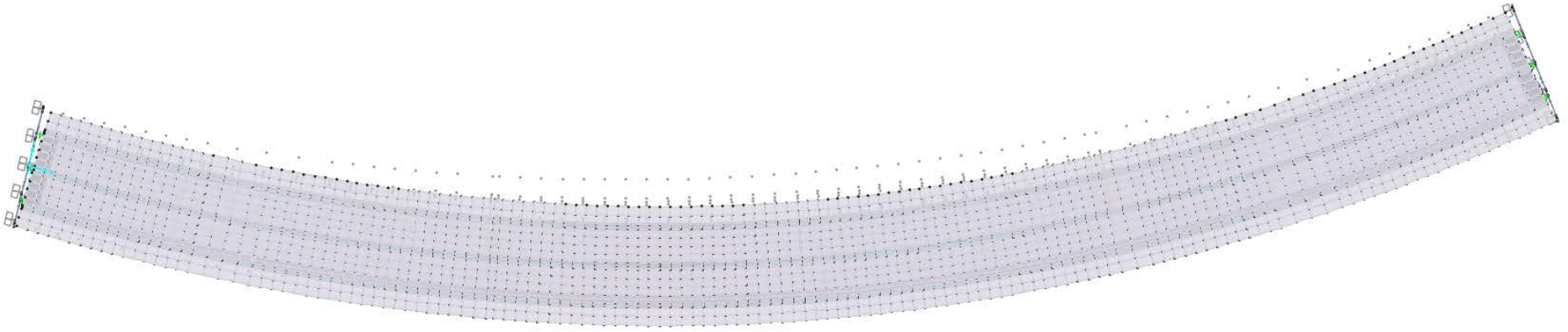
- Lateral pile stiffness estimated to be 27 kip/in
- Group effects not considered

First Mode: $T = 0.82$ sec



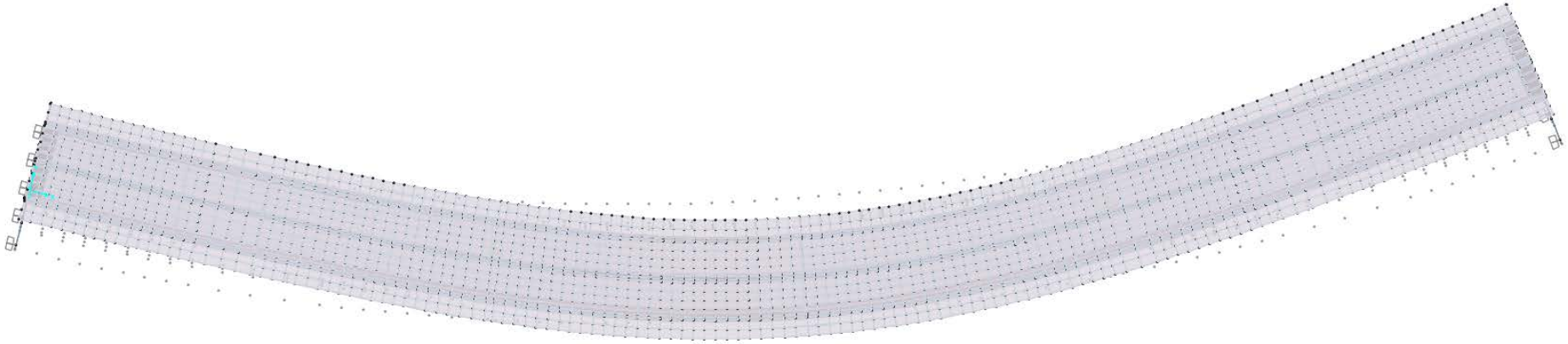
• Mode Participation Factor = 0.0791

Second Mode: $T = 0.76$ sec



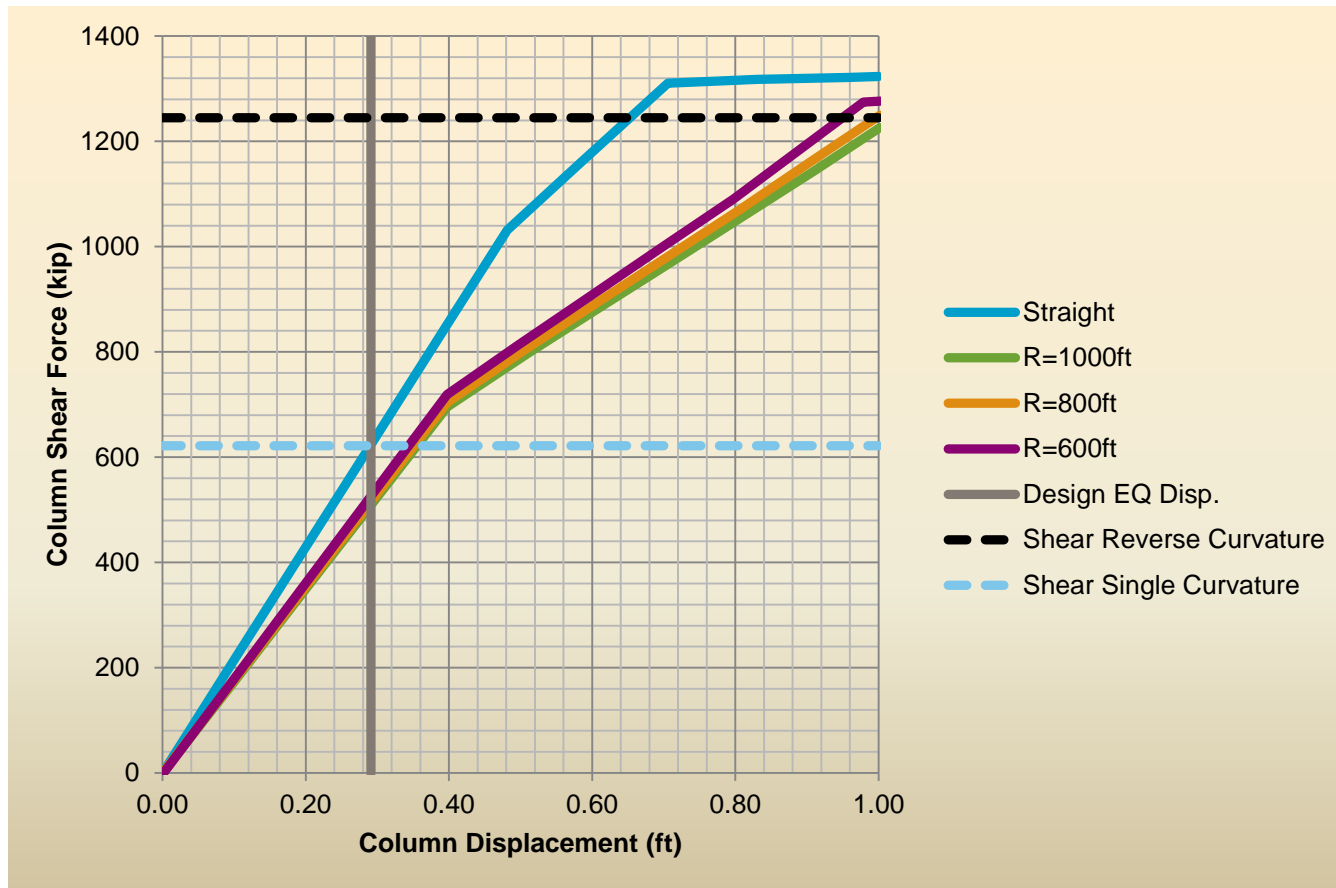
- **Mode Participation Factor = 0.7293**

Ninth Mode: $T = 0.21$ sec

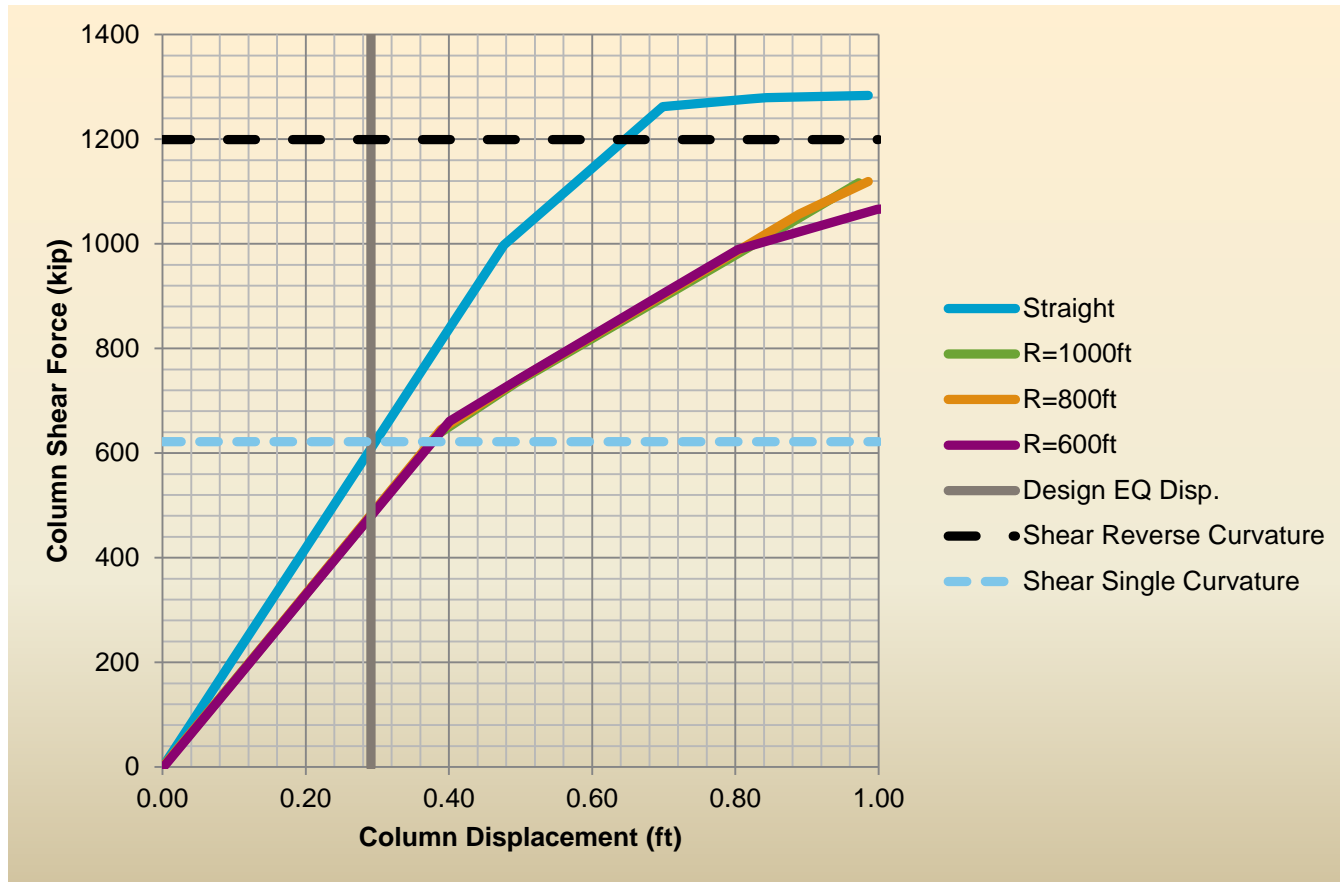


- **Mode Participation Factor = 0.1916**

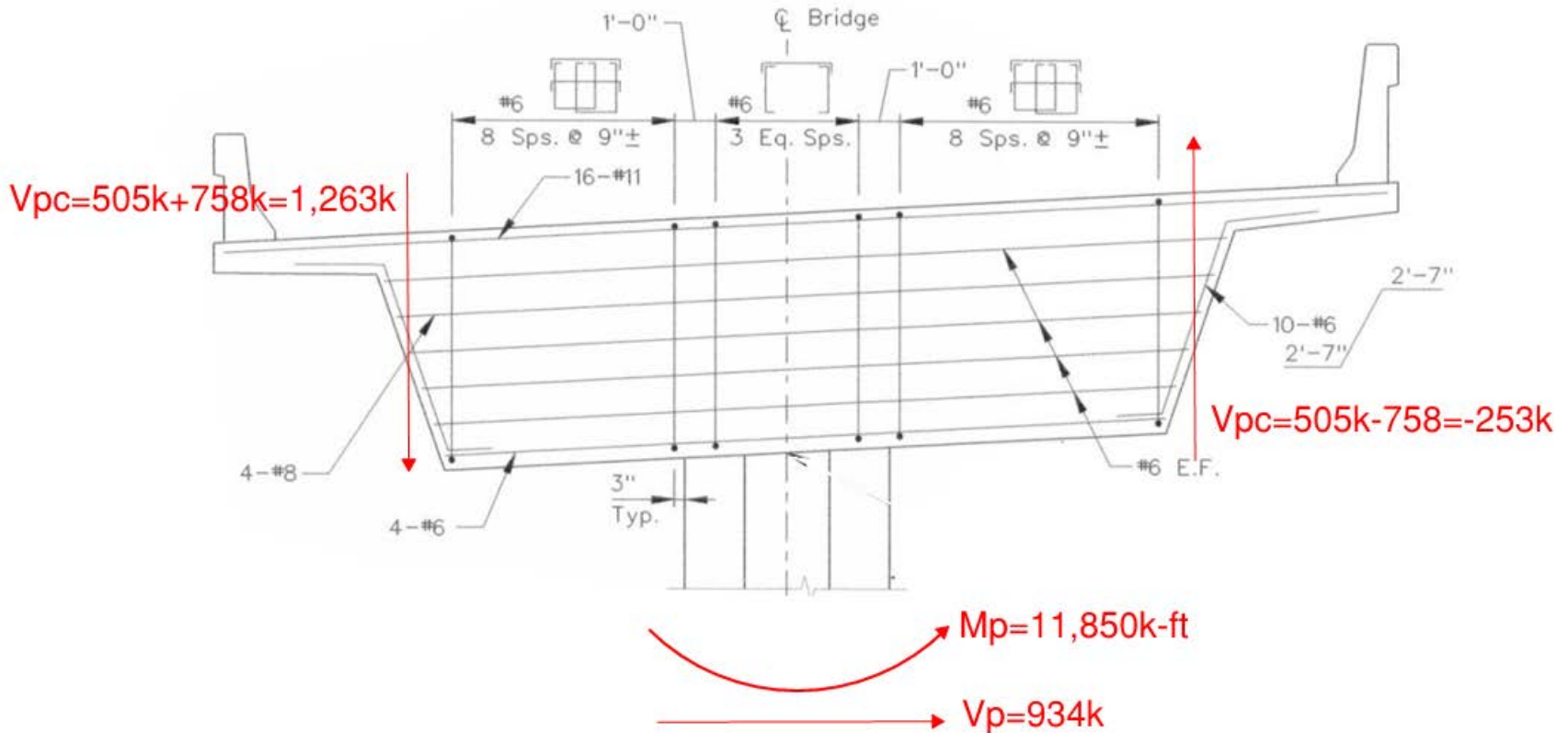
Pile Foundation Response – Pier 1



Pile Foundation Response – Pier 2

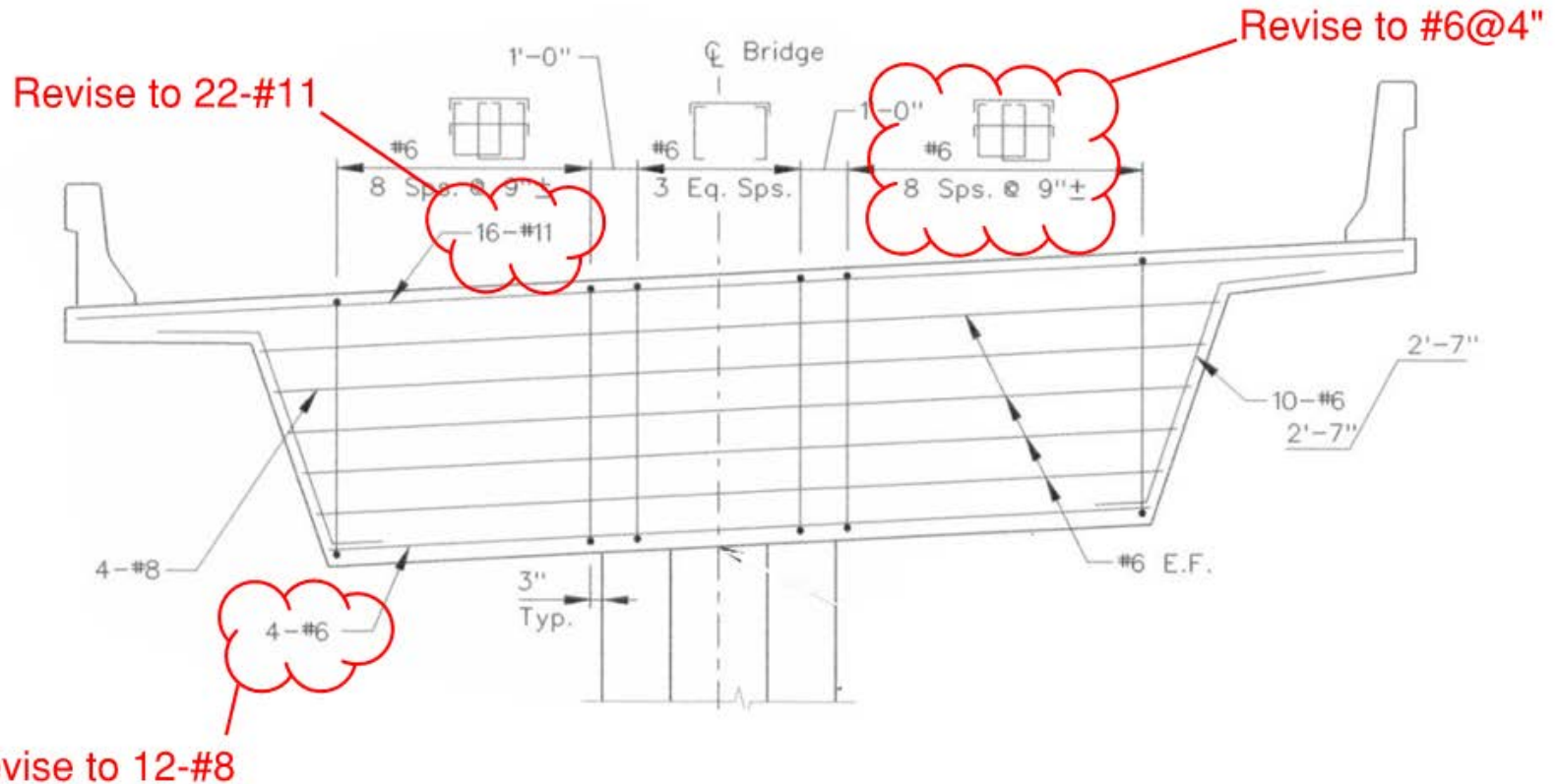


Pier Cap – Free Body Diagram



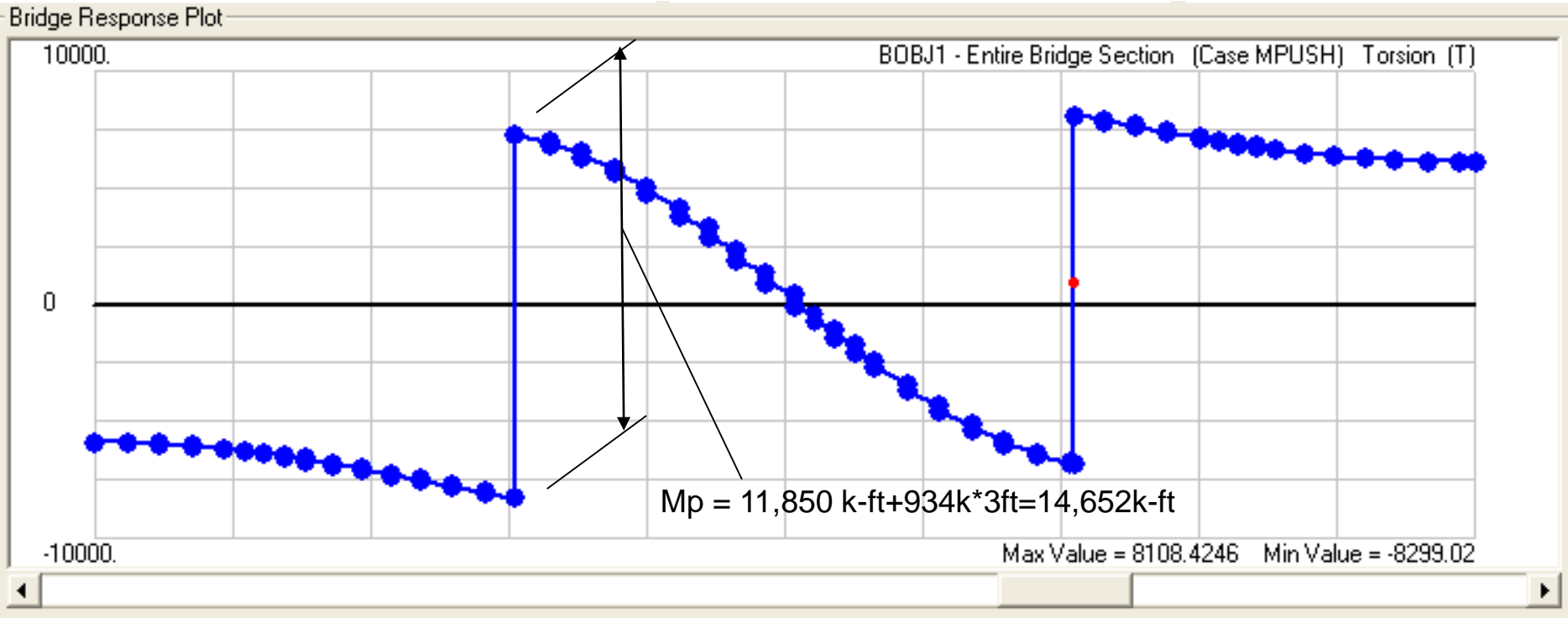
- Use S&T model or Conventional Design Procedure
- Over-strength factor = 1.0

Pier Cap - Revised Design



- **Over-strength factor = 1.2**
- **Strength reduction factor = 1.0**

Superstructure Design Checks



- Check web shear due to plastic hinging induced torsion
- Check bearing designs at abutments

Conclusions

- **Hinging is possible at the top of column in the transverse direction due to a combination of superstructure curvature and foundation stiffness.**
- **Axial load increased up to 10% due to curvature.**
- **Recommend conducting complete bridge pushover analysis. Distribution of displacements should be based on mode shapes.**
- **If moment continuity is not provided in the longitudinal direction in a curved bridge, provide appropriate confinement, anchorage details at top of columns. Verify column shear capacity!**
- **Pier cap and superstructure needs to be designed for additional shear due to plastic hinging forces. If in doubt, capacity protect.**

Thank You

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